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Message Text

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70
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DRC-01 /036 W
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R 051430Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
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USIAC

USIA FOR IAA, IOP/MR, IPS/PA, IBS

DEPT FOR AF/C

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: ZAIRIAN MAGAZINE ON MAALOT

REF: KINSHASA 4376

1. FIRST ZAIRIAN PRESS EVIDENCE OF ATTEMPT AT EVEN-HANDEDNESS IN REPORTING MIDEAST TERRORISM SURFACED IN MOST RECENT ISSUE OF INCREASINGLY INFLUENTIAL ZAIRE MAGAZINE.

2. IN SIGNED EDITORIAL INTITLED "THE MASSACRE OF INNOCENTS," ZAIRE MAGAZINE CLAIMS THAT MASSACRE CONSTITUTED "INEXCUSABLE AND INADMISSIBLE MURDER."

3. EDITORIAL CLAIMS, HOWEVER, THAT "WITHOUT EXCUSING OR JUSTIFYING CERTAIN FAULTS IN OUR PALESTINIAN BROTHERS, WE MUST, HOWEVER, RECOGNIZE THAT CERTAIN OF THEIR ACTS ARE, SOMETIMES, COMMITTED OUT OF DESPERATION."

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4. THEN FOLLOWS COMPENDIUM OF PALESTINIAN ILLS

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OVER PAST 25 YEARS-- "PARIAHS IN CERTAIN ARAB COUNTRIES, REFUGEES IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY, AND EXCLUDED FROM NEGOTIATIONS RELATIVE TO THEIR OWN PALESTINE." BUT, SAYS THE ARTICLE, "THESE REASONS CANNOT IN ANY CASE JUSTIFY THE BARBAROUS ACTS OF MAALOT."

5. EDITORIAL THEN, AS IS ORDINARILY THE CASE (REFTEL), CRITICIZE ISRAELI REACTION, CLAIMING THAT ISRAELI "AGGRESSION IS NOT JUSTIFIED."

6. FOR THE WRITER, ISRAELI RETALIATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON IS "USELESS AND SAVAGE MASSACRE. MORE FRIGHTENING EVEN THAN THE MURDERS AT MAALOT, THOSE COMMITTED BY THE ISRAELIS ARE BEYOND DESCRIPTION."

7. ARTICLE POSES RHETORICAL QUESTION THAT, ALTHOUGH "DENIED BY ISRAELI, WHO CAN MAKE US BELIEVE THAT THE BOMBS AND ROCKETS AVOIDED KILLING CHILDREN AND MERELY KILLED ADULTS AND GUERRILLAS?"

8. IN CONCLUSION, WRITER CLAIMS THAT "WHETHER IT IS ABOUT THE DEPLORABLE MASSACRE AT MAALOT OR THE MURDERS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON, ONE THING IS CERTAIN: THESE CARNAGES RETARD THE POSSIBILITY OF PEACE, WHICH, IN OUR OPINION, CAN ONLY COME ABOUT AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS."

9. COMMENT: IDENTICAL THOUGHTS WERE RECENTLY EXPLAINED TO USIS OFFICER BY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF ZAIRE MAGAZINE, WHO CLAIMED THAT ALTHOUGH THE ARABS HAD BEEN "REHABILITATED" AND ZAIRIAN SYMPATHIES ARE NOW WITH THE ARAB CAUSE, IT WAS THE POLICY OF ZAIRE -- OR LEAST HIS MAGAZINE -- TO DEPLORE UNJUSTIFIED VIOLENCE, PARTICULARLY "THE MURDER OF LITTLE CHILDREN."
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